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LETTER DATED 7 DECEMBER 1994 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

As members of the Security Council will recall, paragraph 4 of Council resolution 952 (1994) of 27 October 1994, with the aim of consolidating the implementation of the peace agreement on Angola in its initial and most crucial stages, authorized the restoration of the strength of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) to its previous level of 350 military observers and 126 police observers, with an appropriate number of international and local staff. The deployment of such additional personnel would take place upon receipt of my report to the Security Council that the Government of Angola and the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA) had initialled a peace agreement and that an effective cease-fire was in place.

Council members are aware that the representatives of the Government and UNITA initialled the Lusaka Protocol on 31 October 1994 and signed it on 20 November.

In agreeing to honour the provisions of the Protocol, the two parties committed themselves to the establishment of a cease-fire; the withdrawal, quartering and disarmament of UNITA troops, disarmament of all civilians; the conclusion of the formation of the Forças Armadas Angolanas (FAA); the formation of the national police; national reconciliation; the conclusion of the electoral process; and other major undertakings. The Government and UNITA have invited the United Nations to assume a new, much wider role in providing its good offices, as well as monitoring and verifying the implementation of all aspects of the Lusaka Protocol. As mentioned in my report of 4 December 1994 (S/1994/1376), I intend to submit to the Security Council in due course my comprehensive recommendations about the overall scope and role of an expanded United Nations operation in Angola.

The Government of Angola and UNITA declared in separate statements both dated 22 November 1994 that they had issued orders to their troops to observe the cease-fire as of 1300 hours local time on that date. My Special Representative, Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye, has informed me that, according to information available to UNAVEM, the cease-fire is generally holding, despite some initial difficulties. Moreover, the Government and UNITA have informed Mr. Beye that they are reasonably satisfied with the status of the cease-fire

and would like to see the planned enlargement of UNAVEM take place as soon as possible. Also, on 4 December 1994, UNITA sent its delegation to Luanda, which permitted the Joint Commission established by the Lusaka Protocol to continue its proceedings.

Having assessed the situation, and in accordance with the provisions of resolution 952 (1994), I intend to proceed with the restoration of the strength of UNAVEM to its previous level, with an appropriate number of international and local staff, and the deployment of the mission throughout the country. I should like to stress that the actual enlargement of the mission would be dependent on the strict observance by the parties of an effective cease-fire, and on the provision by them of satisfactory guarantees regarding the safety and security of the United Nations personnel concerned.

In addition to existing tasks, the mission would monitor and verify all major elements of the Lusaka Protocol and provide good offices to the parties, including at the local level. If need be, it would conduct inspections/investigations of alleged violations independently, or jointly with the parties. In the meantime, my Special Representative would chair the Joint Commission in charge of implementation of the provisions of the Protocol.

I would be grateful if you would bring these matters to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI